

145. Disabilities of Roman Catholic Christians in the matter of securing appointments in the Government service.

Mr. Ulahannan Ulahannan (Member, Nominated) submitted that, out of nearly 8 lakhs of Christians in the State, about 6 lakhs were Roman Catholics and that, though in point of wealth and loyalty, they yielded to none of the other Christian communities, they were but meagrely represented in the public service. He, therefore, requested.—

(1) That a Syrian Catholic be nominated as a non-official member of the Legislative Council and

(2) That better encouragement be shown to Catholics in the matter of Government appointments.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

146. Some needs of the Sackaravar community in South Travancore.

Mr. N. Kumaran (Member, Nominated) submitted the following prayers. —

(1) The nomination, by Government to the Assembly every year, of the General Secretary of the South Travancore Sackaravar Sangham, as a Member to represent the community.

(2) The extension of the half-fee concession granted by Government to certain communities backward in education, to the pupils of the Sackaravar community also, irrespective of their religion.

(3) Employment of the educationally qualified members of the community in the different departments of Government.

(4) The award of grants to the most successful *Vydians* in the community

(5) The opening of a Medical School in South Travancore to teach the Dravidian (*Agastiar* or *Chintamani*) system of medicine, and the conduct of an enquiry into the success of the medical treatment given by the *Vydians* who followed that system.

(6) The establishment of a Weaving and Dyeing institute at Palliyadi, the central locality of the Sackaravar community, and placing their weaving industry, which had already about 2,500 looms, on a permanent and efficient basis.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

147. Need for the encouragement of Parayas.

Mr. Raman Chennan (Member, Nominated) thanked the Government for the encouragement extended to the Paraya community in recent years and made the following requests:—

(1) Paraya boys attending schools should be given pecuniary help for buying books besides full remission of fees. One or two Paraya boys in each taluk should also be helped with scholarships. One P. K. Raman who was reading in the fifth class in the Tiruvalla Higher Grade Vernacular school could not continue his studies on account of his inability to pay fees. He should be given a scholarship to enable him to study English.

(2) Grants should be allowed to schools under the management of Parayas.

(3) Those of them who were literate should be appointed to subordinate posts in hospitals, Town Improvement Committees, etc.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. Government will be glad to grant a scholarship to the Paraya pupil mentioned by the Member.

148. Disabilities of the Araya community and the means of remedying them.

Mr. C. Raman Kunju (Member, Nominated) suggested the following measures for ameliorating the condition of the Araya community.—

1. Though primary education was free, the mass of the Araya population did not take advantage of it, but remained illiterate owing to a variety of causes. To remedy

that state of affairs, schools should be opened amidst them wherever necessary and those among them who were qualified should be appointed as teachers in such schools.

2. Araya boys should be exempted from payment of fees in all Government and aided schools.

3. Night schools should be opened for the labouring classes among them.

4. Institutes should be established to instruct them in Weaving for which they had a natural taste.

5. Araya boys should be given pecuniary help to enable them to prosecute their studies in English schools.

6. A Special Officer should be appointed to organise Co-operative societies among them and to aid their growth by inspection and advice.

7. One Member at least should be nominated by Government from the Araya community to the Assembly every year.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

149. Disabilities of converts to Christianity from depressed classes and suggestions for removing them.

Mr. Abraham Issac (Member, Nominated) submitted that, owing to the petty persecutions to which they were subjected at the hands of the higher castes, most of the boys of his community were unable to put in the minimum attendance in schools as required by the Education Code and that on that account the names of their boys were being removed from the Attendance Register. He, therefore, prayed that the matter might be enquired into and the grievance redressed. Coming to Vernacular education, he requested that the number of scholarships awarded to the boys of his community might be increased, that the half-fee concession granted in respect of class fees be extended to examination fees also, and that those of them who wished to continue their studies after passing the School Leaving Examination should be given remission of full fees and also pecuniary help to buy books.

In regard to English education, his requests were that boys of his community should be freely admitted to all Secondary schools and that those who were already reading in such schools should be given adequate encouragement.

He next prayed that admission be freely given to their girls in all Girls' schools, where they should be given training in cottage industries along with literary instruction. Some of them who showed special aptitude should also be trained as Hospital nurses.

A grant should be allowed in aid of the Technical School at Kuthrapalli in Changanacherry taluk. It was necessary to open similar Technical schools in each taluk, in the interests of the community, at the places pointed out by them. Deserving young men from the community should be given foreign scholarships and then entertained with a view to start new industries. A suitable place for opening a Technical School of the kind was the one comprised in survey No. 1/77 in the Kanjirapalli *pakuthi*, Peermade taluk. A Satrom and a tank were also required at the place for the convenience of the labourers going to Mundakayam, Peermade, &c.

In order to provide the qualified young men of the community with appointments, it was necessary that strict orders should be issued to all Heads of Departments, to give them preference over other communities, qualifications being equal.

As the community had no lands of their own, he prayed that the following areas might be granted to them for cultivation, and that they might be provided with funds to cultivate them, through the Co-operative societies.

1. An area of about 12 acres called Kuttenchirachal, comprised in survey No. 649/1 in the Vadayar *pakuthi*, Vaikom taluk.